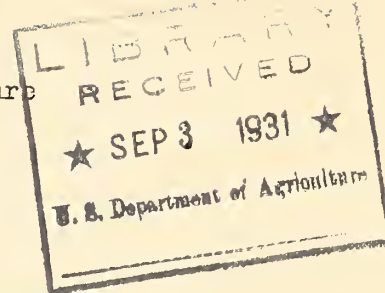


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Bi- 163
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DIRECTIONS FOR CONTROLLING TREE SQUIRRELS

Tree squirrels of the red, fox, gray, and flying species sometimes become a troublesome nuisance by occupying attics, double walls, and other similar spaces in houses. While control in such local instances is desirable, caution must be exercised to guard against killing the squirrels, as they are protected by the game laws of many States, except during open hunting seasons in the fall, which vary in the different states. Some States do not protect the red squirrels, and none protect the flying squirrels. Some States permit the destruction of squirrels where they are doing damage to property, providing permission is granted by the State game officer. Squirrels should not be killed in conflict with State laws.

Squirrels may often be driven from houses by the use of repellents, one of the most successful of which is naphthalene. This may be secured at any local drug store in the form of flakes or the common "moth balls," the flakes being preferred for this purpose. Four or five pounds of the flakes should be scattered liberally about the spaces frequented by the squirrels, and this treatment should be repeated as often as necessary.

It is not practicable to close the openings to shut the squirrels out of a place they are accustomed to use, because if they have become established and then find their usual entrances obstructed, they will probably gnaw their way through the walls in other places and do additional damage.

In case the use of repellents is not practicable, squirrels may frequently be caught in box traps. A full description of a box trap satisfactory for this purpose is described in Leaflet No. 50-L, "How to Make a Cat Trap," which may be obtained from the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. The trap should be baited with nuts. Squirrels so captured may be transported some distance and released, or given to the management of public parks and estates, where there is usually a demand for them.

If necessary to destroy the squirrels, shooting with a small caliber rifle is perhaps the most satisfactory method. Local ordinances relative to shooting in cities must, of course, be observed.

Trapping with steel traps is also effective. Small No. "0" or No. "1" steel traps should be set in the crotches or at the bases of trees which the squirrels are seen to frequent. Nuts placed about the traps will serve as a satisfactory lure.

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